

Message Text

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42

ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-04 EA-06 ISO-00 IOE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00

INRE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

OIC-02 /059 W

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O R 271246Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY LOME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8569

USMISSION USUN NY IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

C O N F I D E N T I A L LOME 2758

COTONOU FOR ARMA

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CD, UNGA, TO, MOPS

SUBJ: KHMER REPRESENTATION ISSUE

REF: A) LOME 2744; B) STATE 259266; C) USUN 5332

1. DISCUSSED KHMER REPRESENTATION ISSUE WITH GOT FONMIN HUNLEDE FOR FORTY MINUTES THIS MORNING. THANKED HIM FOR INTERRUPTING HIS WORK IN YAMOOUSSOUKRO, IVORY COAST, TO RECEIVE EMBASSY ABIDJAN OFFICER. I TOLD HIM OUR UNUSUAL EFFORT TO REACH HIM WITH THE SECRETARYS PERSONAL MESSAGE WAS PROMPTED BY THE SECRETARYS STRONG INTEREST IN THIS MATTER. FROM OUTSET HUNLEDE SAID HE WOULD SPEAK "FRANKLY". GOT SUPPORTS, HE STRESSED, SHHANOUK REGIME AS "LEGITIMATE GOVERNMENT" OF CAMBODIA. HE SAID PRESIDENT EYADEMA HAD SUPPORTED LON NOL FOR A LONG TIME, BUT HAD DECIDED THERE IS SUPPORT AMONG CAMBODIAN PEOPLE FOR SIHANOUK. HUNLEDE REFERRED TO EYADEMA'S MEETINGS WITH SIHANOUK IN ALGIERS LAST YEAR AND IN PEKING THIS SUMMER. I REVIEWED HISTORY OF SIHANOUK'S
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DEPOSITION IN MARCH 1970, STRESSING THAT COMMUNIST VIETNAMESE

WERE USING CAMBODIAN SANCTUARY AND CAMBODIAN PEOPLE WERE DEMONSTRATING IN PROTEST. I SAID USG BELIEVED NEITHER INSURGENTS NOR GKR, COULD WIN WAR, WHICH CONTINUES AT GREAT COST TO CAMBODIAN PEOPLE.

2. HUNLEDE HAD NOT SEEN TEXT OF FRIENDLY RESOLUTION (REFTEL C). AFTER READING COPY WHICH I PRESENTED HIM, HE COMMENTED THERE WAS NOTHING BAD ("MECHANICAL") IN IT, HOWEVER, GOT PERMREP TOGBE COULD BETTER JUDGE SENTIMENT OF AFRICAN CAUCUS AND WIDER NON-ALIGNED GROUP IN NEW YORK. HE SAID HE EXPECTED TELEPHONE CALL FROM TOGBE AT ANY TIME UNLESS, AS WAS POSSIBLE, TOGBE FELT HE COULD MAKE DECISION WITHOUT INSTRUCTIONS. I NOTED THAT VOTE ON THIS RESOLUTION MIGHT TAKE PLACE AS EARLY AS TONIGHT AND ASKED HUNLEDE, IN EVENT TOGBE DID NOT CALL, IF HE WOULD CONSIDER SENDING INSTRUCTIONS. HUNLEDE REPLIED IN NEGATIVE AND FELL BACK ON LAME EXCUSE THAT, OVER GREAT DISTANCE SEPARATING NEW YORK AND LOME, HE WAS NOT APPRISED OF ALL NUANCES OF DEBATE AND CORRIDOR DISCUSSIONS.

3. I REITERATED IMPORTANCE USG ATTACHES TO NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN CAMBODIAN PARTIES THEMSELVES, NEGOTIATION WITHOUT CONDITIONS WHICH GKR HAS PROPOSED AND WHICH SIHANOUK HAS CONSISTENTLY REJECTED, AND TO DESIRABILITY OF AVOIDING PRECEDENT WHICH UNSEATING OF GKR WOULD SET. HUNLEDE DID NOT COMMENT ON BROADER IMPLICATIONS OF KHMER ISSUE.

4. HUNLEDE REFERRED ONCE TO CHARGES OF "AMERICAN INTERVENTION IN CAMBODIA AND SUGGESTED THIS HAD LED TO OTHER NATIONS TO INTERFERE. I REMINDED HIM THAT, FROM MOMENT OF SIHANOUK'S DEPOSITION IN 1970, NVA/VC FORCES HAD ATTACKED CAMBODIANS. I OFFERED, IF HE BELIEVED PRESIDENT EYADEMA WOULD FIND MILITARY BRIEFING ON CAMBODIAN SITUATION USEFUL, TO ARRANGE THIS ON SHORT NOTICE. I MENTIONED THAT OUR ARMA WAS IN COTONOU FOR AMBASSADOR ENGLE'S PRESENTATION CEREMONY AND COULD BE HERE WITHIN THREE HOURS. HUNLEDE THOUGHT SUCH BRIEFING MIGHT WELL INTEREST EYADEMA, WHOSE MILITARY BACKGROUND HE MENTIONED SEVERAL TIMES.

5. HUNLEDE WAS UNWILLING TO COMMIT GOT EVEN TO ABSTENTION ON FRIENDLY RESOLUTION. NEAR END OF OUR TALK HE MENTIONED FOR FIRST TIME HAVING SENT TELEX TO TOGBE YESTERDAY AND SAID HE CONFIDENTIAL

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EXPECTED TO HEAR FROM HIM PRIOR TO VOTE.

6. COMMENT: HUNLEDE WAS HIS USUAL SMOOTH AND EVASIVE SELF. I URGE USUN TO CONSULT WITH TOGBE ASAP, BUT AM NOT SANGUINE ABOUT POSSIBILITY OBTAINING GOT SUPPORT GIVEN GOT'S PREMISE THAT SIHANOUK IS LEGITIMATE RULER.

RAWLS

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